

Please do not give into extortion by CBS over the "broadcast flag" in DTV signals. Broadcasters should not be given control over my VCR or my Tivo, or any other equipment I own and that does not belong to them. If they are given the power to control what I record, what can stop them from using that power on all shows, thus destroying markets and my viewing?

I understand they fear movies being pirated, but this fear is completely unfounded. Nobody would pirate a movie from DTV because the broadcasters already ruin movies on with: censorship, editing, cropping, constant station identification logos, watermarks, commercials, and now some stations like TBS and Spike even run ads on the bottom half of the screen throughout entire shows and movies.

Nobody would pirate a 3 hour commercial that used to be a 1.5 hour movie with 30 minutes of scenes removed, even if all the movies weren't freely available on the web already. They don't need a special flag when they already put banners all over the screen during a movie.

If they honestly believe their own story (which I highly doubt) and truly want to prevent pirating, all they have to do is continue what they are doing now - ruin movies with logos, watermarks, censorship and cutting. Problem solved.

Please, do not give them the power to ruin my Tivo and VCR.